



The City of San Diego  
**Senior Affairs Advisory Board (SAAB)**  
**Minutes**  
**Wednesday, April 4, 2007**

Acting Chairperson Leane Marchese  
Meeting was called to order at 11:05 a.m.

**Members Present:** Kristi Fenick, John Patrick Ford, Leane Marchese, Sharon McColl, Cheryl Wilson, Floyd Willis **Excused Absences:** Sam Duran, Rosemary White-Pope **Staff Present:** Diana Gray **Guests:** District 1 Council Representative – Hugo Carmona, District 2 Council Representatives – Matt Awbrey & Nicholas Calero; Jude Begell, Burton Disner, Mary Wageman

**SAAB Minutes:** The minutes for the SAAB Board Meetings of February 7, 2007 were accepted as presented with no changes. (Wilson/Marchese) The vote was unanimous.

**Modifications to the Agenda:** None

**The Brown Act:** Diana Gray distributed Council Policy 600-24, Draft Provisions Related to Brown Act which was prepared by CPCI staff on 1/25/07. Essentially the Senior Affairs Advisory Board is subject to California's Open Meeting Law, the Ralph M. Brown Act. This ensures that the actions and deliberations of public bodies occur openly with public access and input. In addition, the PowerPoint Presentation on Community Planning Groups was distributed to all board members. A short discussion ensued.

**Update on Board Membership:**

Acting Chair Leane Marchese will draft a letter to the Mayor's Office (Aundene Hugg, Director of Boards and Commissions) requesting assistance with filling the vacant seats. There were 4 vacancies. Leane spoke with both Rosemary Whitepope and Sam Durant who communicated that they would not be able to remain on the board. Rosemary passed on the name of someone who would be available to take her place. As soon as she gets a letter from these two board members, Leane will be able to proceed with getting all 6 seats filled through appointments by the Mayor and confirmed by Council.

**Senior Issues – Looking forward:**

**New Business – Age in Place Initiative**

Leane Marchese announced to the board that the Age in Place Initiative might be something that SAAB could become involved with on the local level in impacting this legislation that impacts seniors. Leane asked the board if they would like to hear George Driver come to speak on this initiative at an upcoming board meeting.

## **Old Business – ITN America**

Leane is working with Chuck Overbey to draft a letter in support of the program that would provide an alternative transportation service to seniors within the City of San Diego.

## **Senior Affairs Advisory Board Strategic Planning 2007:**

**PS&NS --** It is time to set the date for this year's SAAB Report to the PS&NS Committee. The following areas are ongoing concerns for Seniors and are the focus of the SAAB board going forward.

### **Senior Housing**

### **Transportation for Seniors**

**AIS Advisory Council --** Tabled for discussion at the next meeting.

**Emergency Preparedness --** Emergency Preparedness is slated to be included in the report to the Mayor in April 2007.

**Ordinance to require that Caregivers within the City of San Diego are licensed**

## **Announcements/Public Comment:**

Burt Disner made an announcement about the [Home Oxygen Bill H.R. 621](#) because it needs additional support. H.R. 621 was introduced by physician Congressman Tom Price (R-GA) on January 22, 2007. The HOPP Act may help a million oxygen patients to breathe easier by easing the burdens placed them by the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 (DRA). It would restore Medicare treatment of ownership of oxygen equipment to the system that existed before the law was enacted.

Floyd Willis announced that the County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency was putting on its [Biennial Vital Aging Conference](#). The [Vital Aging 2007 Conference](#) is scheduled for [Friday, June 15, 2007 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.](#) with the doors opening at 7:30 a.m. Featured Keynote Speaker of the event is Edward James Olmos. Topics include – Diabetes (& includes screening and information on the prevention and management), caregiving, managing stress, fitness and nutrition. This year's event will be held at the Town & Country Resort located at 500 Hotel Circle North in San Diego. Reservations required – cost is \$15. For information on booths, please call Kristin at (858) 495-5061. Register by calling 800-827-4277.

Mary Wageman announced that [May is Older Americans Month](#) and that the [Naval Medical Center of San Diego is hosting a Health Fair on Wednesday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.](#) in its Courtyard which is open to anybody. Mary invited everyone to attend. To learn more about the event, please call Ms. Joyce DiCicco @ (619) 532-6528 or Ms. Ronnie Huynh @ (619) 532-7647.

Cheryl Wilson announced that St. Paul's Senior Homes and Services submitted an application for the [PACE Program](#) to the Federal Government for funding. The PACE Program strives to keep the elderly person with limited resources in their homes for as long as possible and as comfortable as possible. The PACE Program in San Diego is currently set up to work with 40 physicians.

Leane Marchese announced that ElderHelp of San Diego is working to pilot the [Mathers More than a Café Model](#). This concept focuses on the provision of services to seniors in a non-conventional setting more akin to having a Starbucks for Seniors. ElderHelp is currently pursuing a possible site within the Renaissance at North Park. This site would be ideal as there are 90 affordable senior units housed there and it is situated along a busy bus route.

Kristi Fenick distributed The Scroll for April/May/June 2007. This newsletter is published by the City of San Diego Park and Recreation Department Senior Citizen Services. To get more information or to be put on the mailing list, please call (619)236-6905.

The Meeting was adjourned at 12:12 p.m.

*Acting Chair – Leane Marchese, Executive Director, ElderHelp of San Diego*

*Next Meeting – Wednesday, May 9, 2007*

*SAAB website: <http://www.sandiego.gov/customerservices/saab/index.shtml>*

*City Staff: Diana Gray – telephone: (619) 533-3913*